



Volume XII Number 4
July 2010

Ballston Spa Country Club

The Fox

President's Letter

On Friday June 11th, Ballston Spa Country Club hosted the Southern Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce Golf Event. This was a great opportunity to showcase our great golf course to many of the business people in our area. Over 120 golfers played in the event, which generated approximately \$4,500 in revenue for BSCC. I personally spoke with four groups that day as they came off the 18th hole and played hole number one. I asked them how their day was going and they all agreed that it was going great. They went ahead and mentioned what a great golf course BSCC was and that it was in fabulous condition. These tournaments are very important, because you never know where our next member or next outside tournament will come from.



Rick Fumaro

I want to thank you, the membership, for your patience and understanding with us scheduling this event. We take these decisions very seriously and are very aware of the impact to our membership when we give up a Friday to an outside event. Because of our stable financial position, the Board has decided to take the revenue from this event and start a new equipment fund that will be used in the future to replace some of our aging equipment.

I also want to thank you for your continued help in reducing our credit card costs. Through the end of May, we have reduced our credit card costs almost 50% from 2009 and that equates to a savings of \$4,500 so far.

If you have any comments, suggestions or complaints, please don't hesitate to contact me. My email address is tucats@nycap.rr.com or you may call me, (W) 395-6472 or (H) 371-1926.

Capital District Golf Course Association News

The June meeting of the CDGCA took place at Pinehaven Country Club on June 16th. BSCC was represented by Dick Cody and Tucker. One of the issues dealt with was the clarification of the reciprocal dates and fees for each of the participating clubs. Here is the current information:

BSCC Members may play at the following clubs on July 24, and August 21 and 23. (By the time this is published, our other 5 dates will have passed).

Colonie Country Club: \$18 **Edison Club:** \$14 **Shaker Ridge** \$15 **Schuyler Meadows** \$60 carts extra

Mohawk Golf Club: Green fees \$55 weekdays, \$65 weekends cart \$19. **Van Schaik** \$35 green fee \$28 cart fee
Cart fees are \$19. **Saratoga Golf & Polo** Cart fees only (unknown cost)

To date, Normanside and Pinehaven have no announced fees and Glens Fall CC is nor participating.

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Superintendent's Report

Steve Solisky

I just have a couple of updates for you this month. The condition of the course is in good shape. Just after the June Fox was distributed, the weather changed from spring to a hot summer type weather pattern. Some of you might have noticed some dry areas on the course. The familiar brown wilted look was quiet evident all over the course.

The new irrigation pumps worked great for those two weeks. The only problem we had came at the end of the hot spell, and the amount of water to irrigate with. The water level was so low that the suction lines for the pumps were lying on the bottom of the pond on #17.

Finally the weather broke and the rains came. If we had gone much longer without water, we would have had to stop watering the fairways, which would have meant brown crunchy grass. Something needs to be done to solve this problem.

Some possible solutions are building another pond that would gravity feed our irrigation pond, purchasing a large pump to transfer water from the pond on #18 to the pond on #17, or possibly drilling wells to fill our irrigation pond. In a perfect world, we would get rainfall twice a week (at night of course) and then we would not have to irrigate. The simple fact is that you can never have enough water for irrigation.

We are constantly working to keep our old equipment running. This past week our one and only sprayer went down. This machine is extremely important to the course. All of our liquid chemical applications are done with this machine. We borrowed another machine for now and Chad is working to try and fix ours. The importance of this machine and the age of ours has worried me enough to ask for the purchase of a new machine for next year. We need to have a reliable machine on the property at all times.

Along with the new irrigation pump and the new bridge this year, we were also able to purchase a used fairway mower. This will give us three machines, which means we can mow the fairways quicker and with more efficiency. Also, if one breaks (which happened several times last year) then we will have two machines to keep the fairways mowed nice and tight. Year after year we continue to have problems on the course and with equipment, and the Board has always done its best (within its capacity) to remedy the situation for the following golf season.

2010 Green Cover Raffle

Given the success we had last winter with our 5 green covers, we are again holding a raffle to purchase more covers.

Tickets are \$20 and there will be 30 winners, one each day in September. The winner each day will hold the ticket # that corresponds to the NYS Lottery daily number (evening drawing - 3 digit #).

Tickets can be purchased from any Board member or Laura in the business office.

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From the Golf Shop

Todd Manderson

Lottery Tickets



I would like to remind everyone of a few items that have arisen while doing the lottery. In the past few weeks most of the lottery tickets are sent in with the hopes of 80% of the tickets getting a time between 8 and 9am. There are only 7 times available in that time frame. Unfortunately that means that most of the tickets will not be able to get their 1st requested tee time. We will also be trying something different from here until the end of the year and that will be putting in a couple of starters times. This will hopefully allow us to keep the times on schedule. If this doesn't seem to work then we will be trying 9 minute intervals for the tee sheet. We are doing what we can to try to accommodate the majority of the membership. We thank you for your patience.

Hazard Stakes

We have changed a few markings on the golf course this spring and would like you to be aware of the changes. On hole number 13 and 14, we have changed the markings on the right side of each hole. We have taken the out of bounds stakes out of each hole and have replaced them with red lateral hazard stakes. If you hit a ball into that area, you no longer have to hit a provisional ball. If you do hit a second ball off of the tee, then that is the ball that is in play. Certain circumstances may come into play where that may be the play that best fits the need of the player. The way the hazard rule works is that a player may 1) play the ball as it lies, 2) take a penalty of 1 stroke and drop a ball 2 club lengths from where the ball last crossed the margin of the hazard, 3) go back on a straight line of the point of entry of the ball and go back as far as they choose keeping the flagstick and the point of entry in line or 4) choose to hit a the ball from where they last played the shot from. Those are your options for those holes or any holes that you may come across a lateral hazard.



Cart Path Relief

Just a quick note for those unsure of the free drop off of a cart path. The proper procedure is to determine your nearest point of relief with your stance to be taken. Sometimes that may put you in a position that may not suit your needs. That, unfortunately, is the rule and that is how it is played. The key to any relief from casual water or cart paths is that it is YOUR NEAREST POINT OF RELIEF. Don't make it more difficult than that because it isn't.

In the illustration to the right, it's obvious that the nearest point of relief is to the right of the cart path. If, however, the ball was sitting just to the right of the center of the cart path, the nearest point of relief may well be to the left of the cart path. The reason for this is that the player must take full relief from the cart path, meaning (s)he must take a stance on the right side of the path and ground his/her club in front of her/him to determine the nearest point of relief, which means the nearest point of relief is at least 3 feet from the cart path. If (s)he goes left, the nearest point of relief is just a few inches off the cart path.



The rules of golf are dumber than carrots. A long time ago a bunch of guys in coats and ties and funny accents drank a vat of brandy and made up these rules that only Ben Hogan could live by. Dan Jenkins

House/Restaurant Report

For members and guests who were fortunate enough to attend the Italian and German night at the club, you enjoyed some very good food at an excellent price. Chef Jim Rhodes is working on a **Pig Roast** for July. The chef will wear the traditional grass skirt and is asking members to do the same. Check you email and our website for more information. This will be a fun-filled evening with excellent food and good friends.

By the time you read this we will have a revised menu for lunch and dinner. Jim Rhodes will have wished his students well for the summer and is now in the BSCC kitchen full time. A few members remarked that the Pizza at the club, primarily the dough, was not as good as it is at Panza's restaurant. Tony acknowledged this fact and said the difference is in the ovens. The Panza restaurant on Saratoga Lake has a brick oven built on the premises in 1952. It maintains a 500 degree temperature throughout and our pizza oven cannot duplicate that. Tony has been working with the BSCC cooks to improve our pizza and comments over the past few weeks have been very favorable. Some of you may remember that we had some challenging experiences with food and service last year at tournaments. One of those less than satisfied outings returned this year and the chair person said the prime rib dinner and service was outstanding. The more we deal with the Panza Group the more convinced we are – Tony Panza's MO is take care of your customers. The very capable staff is trained to do just that.

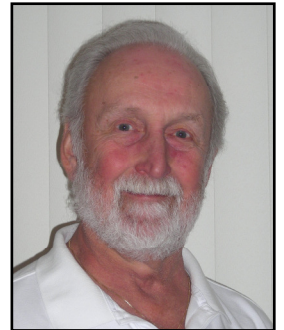


Dick Cody

You should be enjoying the services of our **snack shack** at the 9th green and the services of the **beverage cart**. There are a variety of food and beverage items at the shack and the sandwiches on the cart are very good and reasonably priced. Please make sure that you take advantage of the services.



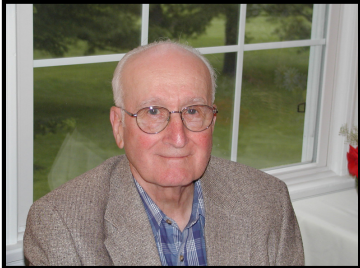
Our members are not bashful and freely express their compliments and critiques. Please continue to do so to Jim, Eric Meisner, wait staff and any member of the BOD.



Bob Miskamin

FROM THE CONTROLLER'S CORNER

The hard work and money invested in improvements have paid off in this very difficult year for golf clubs. It is expected that BSCC will essentially meet the income budgeted and that there is an adequate cash reserve on hand to provide funds for operations in January 2011 until dues and other income is received.



Al Squire

The condition of the golf course and greatly improved food and drink service will undoubtedly result in both increased membership and tournaments, both adding to income.

The credit belongs to the membership who support the club, the dedicated staff who keep the club operating, and members who provide time and talents, with little or no compensation or recognition.

The Winners' Circle

June 12th, 13th, 2010
Men's and Women's
Member-Member

Men

Championship Flight

1 st	Dave Fizer/Jim Tedesco	145
2 nd	Tim Bethel/Jim Oppedisano	146

1st Flight Gross

1 st	Jack Cottrell/John Andrews	147
2 nd	Tom Hudy/Chris Brady	150

Net

1 st	Mark Yale/Bob Baran	130
2 nd	Rich Vanbuskirk/John Monahan	132

2nd Flight Gross

1 st	Bill Furman/Ron Penpraze	147
2 nd	Ed Rufer/Pete Kanches	154

Net

1 st	Doug Young/Ken Koran	127
2 nd	Graham Valentine/Jim Furphy	135

3rd Flight Gross

1 st	Taylor Dwyer/Terry Dwyer	158
2 nd	Mark Rider/Ron Symanski	160

Net

1 st	Winston Wachtel/David Lane	126
2 nd	Dan Loewenstein/John Paolucci	131

4th Flight Gross

1 st	Scott Kephart/Jaydeep Roy	160
2 nd	Steve Heidorn/Carl Jahn	173

Net

1 st	Gary Brenenstuhl/Roy Knutson	134
2 nd	Ron Ravena/Terry Jones	136

Women

Gross

1 st	Betsy Drambour/Kris Youmans	71
2 nd	Heidi Harkins/Sue Delanoy	73
3 rd	Kathy Harkins/Donna Nevulis	75

Net

1 st	Sue Kahler/Claudia Mahoney	60
2 nd	Penny Monnat/Betty Thornhill	61
3 rd	Pat Stack/ Marylaw Powell	62

June 9th 2010
Men's Day

1st Net: Paul Miles, Chris Wilkes, Ted Rudzinski, Al D'Amato (120)

1st Gross: Matt Riggins, Mike Paine, Greg Ronca, Jay Latulippe (147)

June 19 – 20, 2010
President's Cup

Women's Winner: Sue Delanoy

Men's Winner: Jimmy Bryant

Bank Promotes BSCC

Ballston Spa National Bank offered us the opportunity to install a promotional display in their Main Office for the month of June.

Thanks to Laura McNeil, our Office Manager, for arranging this display. Good job.



Members Communications Report

Ballston Spa Country Club's Blog

Share your thoughts, photos, and more with your friends and the world.
It's easy to post text, photos, and videos from the web or your mobile phone.

To access BSCC's Blog, log into the Member's Only section, click on the orange button  (with a white "B") (see fig.1). This link will direct you to BSCC's Blog at <http://ballstonspacc.blogspot.com>.

To participate:

- You can comment on an existing post or post a new topic of your choice. Click on the "Comments" link next to a post to view other comments or post a comment of your own. To comment, type in your message in the comment box at the bottom of the page – you may sign in with your –Third Party ID or select 'Anonymous' using the drop-down box (see fig. 2).
- If you choose to sign in, you can publish your own post and have others comment...simply click the "New Post" link at the top-right of the webpage.

***** Please remember this is a public forum - available to everyone (not just BSCC members) – so please uphold our Club's level of decency and decorum when posting or commenting.***



fig.1



fig. 2

As always, if you have any problems or issues with any of our Internet technologies – including the website, emails or social media sites - please let me know at:

webmaster@ballstonspacc.com, thanks.

Keith



Parring the 19th



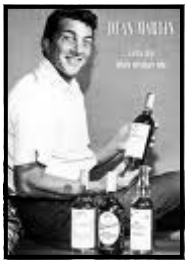
Tucker

What is it about booze and golf? In no other sport is there such an affinity between game and liquid. Golf and alcohol are as inseparable as John Daly and ~~M&M's Coca-Cola, divorces, blown second chances~~, well, ...alcohol.

Spectator sports don't count, although even here golf is the champion chugger, with the FBR Phoenix Open's 16th hole being responsible for a major spike in Anheuser Busch stocks every February.

"Watching a golf tournament is different from attending other sports arenas. For one thing, the drunks are spread out over a larger area." (Don Wade)

Bowling comes close, but grabbing a Bud from a proximate bar is no match for coolers on your personal motorized vehicle or beer brought to you in refrigerated carts on a regular basis throughout your round. Let's face it: golf is the only way you can get away with drinking and driving a motorized vehicle.



"If you drink, don't drive. Don't even putt." (Dean Martin)

Nor does any other participant sport have a designated playing unit devoted to the consumption of alcohol. No tennis player ever invites his or her opponent to a drink at the 14th set; no bowler calls his après game drink "the 11th frame". No fly fisherman ever... well, you get my point, I'm sure. But hootch and golf are so much entwined that we designate the 19th hole as an official part of the round.



The term "Parring the Nineteenth" seemed like an appropriate title for a golf column that deals with the culture of the Sunday foursome. Golf's 19th hole is where the real games begin. Fueled by pitchers of amber, the recent 18 holes are relived, incidents and shots are enhanced, lies are offered up, matches are arranged, insults exchanged and bullshit reigns supreme.

"I like to say I was born on the 19th hole, the only one I ever parred." (George Low)

'My friends from North of the Border are amazed when they come to the USA and are allowed to drink on the course. For some of my American friends, golf could not happen unless there was some "swing lube" involved.

"Where I play, all the putts break toward the bar." (George Gobel)

My personal history with spirits and golf reflects an evolving maturation. When I was young, a couple of beers relaxed me and I played better golf. As I matured, it had the opposite effect, influencing my club selection and making me over confident. At my advanced stage of life, I may have a beer or two during a charity scramble, but I'm too tuned in to keeping the handicap reasonable to drink much during a regular match.

As for the morning after, I have seen some memorable incidents that defy reason. A few years ago, a friend was over-served the night before we started a two day outing. The next day's format was better ball of partner. That morning, suffering from the wrath of grapes, my friend was still feeling the effects of the bartender's salesmanship skills and no one wanted him as a partner. Partially because he offered me compensation, I adopted him, despite the fact that he hit his opening drive 90 yards and 90 degrees to the right of the intended line of flight on the first tee. He then went on to win the tournament for us, almost singlehandedly.

"A fifth at night...a 68 in the morning." (Walter Hagen)

Hagen used to show up at a tournament wearing a tuxedo with a woman on his arm, drinking champagne, ostensibly implying he was just getting in from last night's party. Sometimes he was, other times it was gamesmanship.

Booze, especially scotch whiskey, is undeniably a huge part of the game. It has been hypothesized that the reason we have eighteen holes in golf is because a shot of whiskey per hole would empty the bottle after that number of holes. And in the end, we cannot ignore the fact that Scotland gave us both the finest game and the finest alcoholic beverage in the world.

Coincidence? I don't think so.





ON THE GREEN

Hawaiian Buffet

We are planning a "Hawaiian Theme" buffet for Friday, July 30th from 6:00 PM—8:00 PM. Cost will be 16.96. The menu hasn't been finalized yet, but here is a preview.



Fresh Roast Pork with Ginger
Steamed Pacific Mussels with Lemon Grass
Spicy Fish Fillets with Bok Choy
Caramelizes Leeks and Onions
Cucumbers with Lime
Spicy Vegetables with Soba Noodles



Check the Restaurant for some additions - Including Desserts!

Please note that reservations must be made for this theme night,
so please call early!

Fantasy Football

Fantasy Football, anyone? We've had some interest to start a Fantasy Football League. It would begin on Labor Day Weekend and end with the Superbowl. *Panza's on the Green* will consider opening based on interest, so please talk this up and let us know.

